United Nations E/C.2/2013/2/Add.11

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 October 2012

Original: English

**Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations**
**2013 regular session**
21-30 January 2013

# Quadrennial reports for the period 2008-2011 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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## 1. National Council of Women of Great Britain

**Special, 2000**

**Introduction**

The National Council of Women of Great Britain has continued its long-standing commitment to the United Nations Agenda for Women, and representatives of the Council have attended every session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The agenda of Council in the United Kingdom, in Europe and internationally covers subjects within the Beijing Platform for Action and the annual themes of the Commission on the Status of Women.

The resolutions of the annual conference of the Council that are relevant to the work of the United Nations have been ratified and submitted to the Government of the United Kingdom each year, as follows:

2008: Maidenhead, United Kingdom (17-19 October): children in prison; children's television; assistance for vulnerable people; trafficking in children.

2009: Darlington, United Kingdom (2-4 October): effects of the global economic crisis on women; needs of widows in society; vulnerable women and their children; representation of women in Parliamentary elections; service personnel and post-traumatic stress disorder.

2010: Gloucester, United Kingdom (15-17 October): sexualization and exploitation of children; protection of women and children from rape in post-disaster and post-conflict areas; malnutrition in hospitals; gender equality in Parliamentary representation; need for affordable housing.

2011: Nottingham, United Kingdom (14-16 October): child benefit allowances; environment protection and food production; sexual stereotyping in education; reform of women's justice; forced marriages; global economic crisis.

The Council has organized seminars in the United Kingdom on subjects related to the United Nations agenda, as follows:

2008: children's television; migration; women at work; intergenerational seminars with school students; International Women's Day celebration.

2009: women's mental health issues; the politics of food; literacy in childhood; the digital future; safeguarding the health of the vulnerable; intergenerational seminars.

2010: aspects of ageism; substance misuse; alcohol and health; intergenerational seminars; sexualization and exploitation of children.

2011: care and the caring professions; information technology and social networking; three intergenerational seminars.

In addition, the Council has taken part in pre- and post-session consultations on the Commission on the Status of Women between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the Government each year. Members also attended European and international meetings of the International Council of Women, the European Centre

of the International Council of Women, and the European Women's Lobby, where topics relating to the United Nations agenda were discussed.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Council has attended all sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York from 2008 to 2011, and co-sponsored and chaired a side-event in March 2011 on the theme "Every girl's right to access to education, including science and technology". The Council has attended annual briefing meetings with the Government in London relating to sessions of the Commission, with other European organizations, and with Michelle Bachelet of the United Nations Entity on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), in 2011.

The Council also participated in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Conference, held in Paris from 3 to 5 September 2008, on the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A lack of funding has limited the participation of the Council in other meetings of the United Nations.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The work of the Council in support of the Millennium Development Goals is within its work to advance progress in developing countries, for example, on gender equality and the empowerment of women; education; poverty; halting the spread of HIV/AIDS; and women's and children's health. Members of the Council attended the International Council of Women Triennial Conference, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 14 to 19 October 2009, and the International Council of Women Executive Meeting, held in Barcelona, Spain, from 27 to 31 May 2011.

## 2. National Space Society

**Special, 1996**

**Introduction**

National Space Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the creation of a spacefaring civilization. The Society, with approximately 10,000 members (and more supporters) and over 50 chapters in the United States of America and around the world, is widely acknowledged as the pre-eminent citizen's voice on space issues. It also publishes *Ad Astra* magazine, an award-winning periodical chronicling important developments in space.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission and goals of the Society are to promote social, economic, technological and political change to advance the day when humans will live and work in space. It believes that space development and settlement will be best ensured if nations cooperate on space research and development and leave competition to the private sector. The Society promotes its goals and raises public awareness of space-related activities of government, industry, and academia through programmes, publications, its annual International Space Development Conference, its website and the media.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Society contributed through participation in: (a) annual meetings of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee, in Vienna; (b) annual meetings of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) when considering the General Assembly agenda item on international cooperation and the peaceful uses of outer space, in October at the United Nations; (c) events supporting the annual World Space Week, October 4 to 10; and (d) briefings for NGOs by the Department of Public Information at the United Nations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

2008: Special Political and Decolonization Committee, agenda item 28, New York, 14 October.

2009: Special Political and Decolonization Committee, agenda item 30, New York, 20-22 October.

2010: Special Political and Decolonization Committee, agenda item 50, New York, 14 October. Legal Subcommittee, Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 4-8 April 2011.

2011: Special Political and Decolonization Committee, New York, 13 and 18 October agenda item 51.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

2010: As a panellist at the Department of Public Information/NGO Briefing entitled "Space and society: bringing the benefits of space technology to Earth," held on 14 October in New York, the representative of the Society gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Society's efforts and materials relating to the topic.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Society supported the Millennium Development Goals by continuing to focus its activities on promoting manned activities in space and bringing the benefits of space to Earth, working mainly through the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, the Legal Subcommittee and the Office of Outer Space Affairs.

The Society supported the United Nations-declared World Space Week with online and print activities for children and adults throughout the year. For example, it published the 2008 and 2009 National Space Society Space Settlement Calendars for 2008 and 2009, featuring the winning artists of the 2008 and 2009 space settlement art contests, in print and online at www.nss.org/images.

2010: Inaugurated the National Space Society Space Gallery, where space artists may share with the public their vision of humanity's future in space, on 12 May 2010 (www.nss.org/images).

2011: Featured an article by a representative of the Society, entitled "NSS at the UN", along with a spread showing United Nations stamps commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of space flight in *Ad Astra* magazine.

## 3. Nature Conservancy

**Special, 1996**

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission of the Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

**Significant changes in the organization**

In the past four years, the organization changed President and Chief Executive Office, who is now Mark Tercek. It also went through a reorganization and now has four geographical regions: North America and the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa and Asia and the Pacific. It also has an office in Europe that aims to engage with European public funders. The organization has shifted from focusing on local solutions to ones that have broad, if not global, impact. The Nature Conservancy has moved from protecting nature from people to a focus on protecting nature for people. The organization recognizes a need to broaden the support for conservation if it are to achieve its goals, and to do so it must make sure that its work is relevant and inspiring to people. There is a commitment to becoming a truly global organization in order to match the pace and scale of threats to the natural world.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Nature Conservancy focuses on the environmental pillar for achieving sustainable development. In order to protect nature for people, the organization focuses on mainstreaming conservation into development planning, emphasizing natural capital valuation and ecosystem services recognition as means to achieving poverty eradication. The Nature Conservancy works closely with local communities and indigenous peoples and with business partners that have demonstrated a commitment to sustainable development.

The Nature Conservancy is a partner of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Equator Initiative and continues to be very supportive of that work since its beginnings.

The Nature Conservancy also contributed to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity Report for Business*.

The Nature Conservancy works with UNDP in different parts of the world.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Nature Conservancy participates in the sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the United Nations Forum on Forests. The Nature Conservancy has also participated in the high-level Review Meeting of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector. The Nature Conservancy is active in

United Nations negotiating processes such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Developing the concept for a project with UNDP, in cooperation with the Global Environmental Facility in Chile, on a regional system of protected areas for sustainable conservation and use of Valdivian temperate rainforest.
- Project with UNDP, in cooperation with the International Climate Initiative (Germany), for the protection of carbon pool and sinks within the wetlands and protected areas of Panama.
- Project with UNDP, in cooperation with the Global Environmental Facility, for a national environmental policy for indigenous territories in Brazil.
- Collaboration with UN-Water, UN-Oceans and the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The work of the organization focuses on conserving nature for people, and in this regard this work spreads across almost all of the Millennium Development Goals. The organization works deliberately towards Goal 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability), Goal 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) and Goal 8 (Develop a global partnership for development). It is developing an agricultural priority, which will focus on food security. The Nature Conservancy has two global priorities on freshwater, the Great Rivers Partnership and integrated river basin management, which aim to develop green water infrastructure, taking into account the local communities that benefit from them. The Nature Conservancy has many projects around the world working in partnership with local communities and business partners on fisheries (i.e., Caribbean countries, Asia-Pacific countries and Mongolia) and cattle ranching (i.e., Brazil).

## 4. Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women

**Special, 2008**

**Introduction**

The Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women is a comprehensive national "umbrella" organization. The Network is committed to the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women. Therefore, the Network supports and acts as the advocate for all women's organizations in the country. The Network builds on sharing and inclusivity.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Network successfully works towards ensuring gender equality, promotes women's human rights and promotes women's empowerment nationally, regionally and globally. While maintaining the highest ethical and professional standards, its

mission is to provide effective representation and advocacy and to promote and enhance the quality of life for women and girls in Trinidad and Tobago.

**Significant changes in the organization**

As of September 2011, the Network has been granted an annual subvention to cover 60 per cent of its recurrent expenditure by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. This has allowed the Network of NGOs to have two full-time and one part-time staff members; previously, the Network functioned entirely with volunteers and part-time workers.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Network partners with the local United Nations country office and the UN-Women Caribbean Office in Barbados in many capacities; the Network Coordinator participated in the strategic planning meeting of UN-Women, in Barbados on 26 January 2011; a field assessment to determine the impact of the presence in the region of UN-Women as presently constituted; the United Nations Volunteers national round table on the theme "Developing national and legislation on volunteerism and civic engagement". The Network is a civil society representative on the national United Nations Gender Theme Group.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Network was represented at the following meetings: High-level Colloquium on Women Leaders as Agents of Change in the Global Fight against Poverty. United Nations Headquarters, 21 September 2011; and the NGO Committee on the Status of Women Forum, 2012 Consultation Day, in New York. It delivered an oral statement to the plenary at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2012, on the theme "The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges", addressing the issue of the economic empowerment of rural women.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Network is a partner with the United Nations country office in Trinidad and Tobago. The Coordinator sits on the Country Programme Strategy Committee of the United Nations Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme. The Network also works closely with the local United Nations country office on initiatives driven by the Millennium Development Goals. It dedicated the theme of its 2011 Annual Fundraiser Diary to Millennium Development Goal 4, "Unite to end violence against women". It shared in the contribution of UN-Women to the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. The Network is an implementing partner with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and UN-Women on a national coalition on women, girls and HIV/AIDS, which was launched in October 2011; it participated in the country consultation for the development of a new United Nations Population Fund Programme of Assistance 2012-2016.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The United Nations 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign and World AIDS Day are now annual activities on the Network's yearly calendar of

events. The Network lobbies continuously for a national policy on gender equality and works with the Ministry of Planning on the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in Trinidad and Tobago. It collaborated on a symposium on safe motherhood best practices and reducing maternal mortality in October 2011. It contributed to the sixth annual meeting of parliamentarians, with a focus on defining the role that parliamentarians can play in the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

## 5. New Future Foundation

**Special, 2008**

**Introduction**

New Future Foundation is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1969. It offers an opportunity for youth from multi-ethnic and multi-economic backgrounds to share their experiences. The Foundation increased its membership to provide youth and young business professionals with training and by providing international opportunities for travel, education and knowledge for problem-solving for a better and healthier world.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission of the Foundation is to facilitate international and domestic economic social development through recreation, education, culture, and health. It began with children aged 6 to 12 and broadened its programmes to include high school and college students, the hip hop generation and young business professionals.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The Foundation young people went to Haiti after the earthquake in 2010 and to Sierra Leone after the war to assist in providing safe havens for refugees. Opportunities were provided to participate at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held from 30 May to 3 June 2011 in Turkey, and at the World Festival of Black Arts and Culture, held in December 2010 in Senegal. Youth of the Foundation had more hands-on experience in addressing health issues relating to Millennium Development Goal 5, Improve maternal health, and Goal 6, Combat HIV, malaria and other diseases.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Foundation is active within several least developed countries, such as Ethiopia, Gambia, Haiti, Mali Senegal, Sierra Leone and the United Republic of Tanzania. Its efforts include: relocating youth from the War in Sierra Leone; over a three-month period following the earthquake in Haiti, historically documenting the devastation, assisting with the organization of events and fundraising with Hip Hop for Haiti. Foundation Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Queen Mother Dr. Blakely, served as Ambassador of Goodwill to the World Festival of Black Arts and Culture and recruited young artists for its delegation. In Ethiopia, the Foundation is providing partnerships with rural women through the Queen Mother Coffee project to empower rural women and girls for partnership with entrepreneurs in the United States.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Foundation prepared and presented written and oral statements at official meetings and collaborated with working groups and caucuses to foster relationships and partnerships with other NGOs. Its representatives attended the High-level Meeting on Youth, held in Geneva in 2011; the Youth Assembly at United Nations Headquarters; sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women; the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery; sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development; sessions of the Commission on Social Development; meetings of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; high-level segments of the Economic and Social Council; and meetings of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Foundation has engaged in dialogue and plans of actions with the following: Bangladesh, Haiti, Jamaica, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Turkey, the United Republic of Tanzania, the African Union, the Caribbean Community, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, the Office of the Special Advisor for Africa, UNESCO and UN-Women, among others.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Foundation engages young people in farming and agriculture process by utilizing their skills and training in business management, entrepreneurship, employment, sales, promotions and marketing. Young people are involved with Millennium Development Goals 1, 2, 3 and 8. With regard to Goal 1, the Foundation is focusing on agriculture and farmers. It believes that providing farmers with a source of income will enable them to feed themselves and will strengthen their economies, sustain their households and bring them out of poverty. With regard to Goal 2, the Foundation is educating young people and sending them to school for many years, providing exchange student and scholarships programmes for young people in primary education. With regard to Goal 3, the Foundation fostered partnerships in agriculture focusing on women growers and women farmers. With regard to Goal 8, the Foundation is widely marketing, promoting and selling the Queen Mother Coffee throughout the United States and is importing organic coffee from developing countries such as Haiti, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and other international organic coffee growing countries.

**Additional information**

The Foundation has been dealing on an international basis with youth in leadership roles for the future.

## 6. NGO Health Committee

**Special, 2004**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the NGO Health Committee is to promote worldwide cooperation on issues of health in keeping with United Nations principles and concerns.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Committee has increased its contribution to the work of the United Nations in building the capacity of key health-care personnel through work in Latin America. Two members made presentations at events co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO): the International Congress of Patient Safety, held in Oaxaca, Mexico, in October 2010, and the International Symposium on Excellence in Medical Care, held in Merida, Mexico, in 6 October 2010. The Chair was an invited participant at a WHO international interdisciplinary seminar on long-term care, held in Havana, Cuba, from 4 to 7 May 2010. On 3 May 2010, she conducted a workshop for nurses on the care of older adults. In the period 2008-2011, she provided consultation to nursing faculty in: 15 universities in Colombia; 6 in Argentina; 4 in Chile and 3 in Mexico. A board member hosted Japanese midwives and physicians visiting midwifery programmes and practices in New York. In July 2011, board members worked on a statement on human rights for older adults, submitted to the Open ended Working Group on Ageing in preparation for the General Assembly meeting.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Members regularly attended Department of Public Information briefings. Two members attended the World Health Assembly at WHO-Geneva in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In 2009, the Committee hosted an information technology exhibit held at the United Nations Office at Geneva. On 20 May 2009, the former Chair organized and participated in a panel of experts on information technology and global health challenges. A programme on patient safety, held on 22 June 2011, featured the Manager of the Patient Safety Project of WHO.

All programmes have had one or more co-sponsors, each an NGO accredited by Economic and Social Council or the Conference of NGOs. Among the co-sponsors have been the Working Group on Girls of the NGO Committee on UNICEF; Soroptomist International; International Humanist and Ethical Union; the NGO Committee on Ageing: the International Confederation of Midwives; the NGO Committee on the Family-New York; the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues; the NGO Committee on Mental Health; Conference of NGOs Committee on HIV/AIDS-New York.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Committee's parallel events, held in the Church Centre of the United Nations in New York, focus on Millennium Development Goals 3,4, 5 and 6, with programme activity relating to a lesser extent to Goals 1, 2 and 7.

A board member worked from 12 to 29 August 2008 in a Mozambique orphanage and made donations of clothing and sewing machines for older girls to earn money. Programmes were on the following topics: the impact of obstetric fistula and economic empowerment (2008); midwifery education and practice (2009); strategies for reducing maternal mortality in rural communities in the United Republic of Tanzania (2010); and perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (2010). In January 2010, a member did fundraising with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to provide money for repair of obstetric fistula for women in Ghana.

On 7 February 2008, "Migration and health" was theme of a programme during the session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. On 22 June 2011, programme was present on the theme "Patient safety: avoiding unnecessary harm," with the Manager of the WHO Patient Safety Project.

On 10 March 2009, during the session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Committee organized a parallel event on the theme "Impact on health of the caregiver: HIV/AIDS and the family". On 24 September 2010, the national meeting of the American Autoimmune Related Disease Association was organized by a member and hosted by the NGO Health Committee.

On 8 September 2011, a programme was presented on the theme "The global challenge of chronic disease: interaction of physical and mental health risks". Speakers were researchers/clinicians on mental health, dementia, diabetes and cardiovascular disease prevention.

Programmes on the impact of climate change on health (2008) and on protecting health from climate change (2009) featured speakers representing WHO-New York, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Columbia University Research Institute for Climate and Society.

On 2 March 2011, during the session of the Commission of the Status of Women, a side event on the theme "Women, war and broken lives: rebuilding better resources and justice for women and girls" was presented by a member who is international expert on human rights and a UNDP expert on gender issues.

## 7. Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development

**Special, 1996**

**Introduction**

Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development is an international NGO based in Kyoto, Japan, which has no religious, political, or racial affiliations. It was accredited as an aggregate corporation by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993 and as a public interest incorporated association by the Cabinet Office in 2010.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The goal of the organization is to contribute to the world peace, by alleviating poverty and providing for basic human needs and by promoting the protection and improvement of the environment. To that end, it is constantly devoting its efforts towards achieving environmental conservation and rural development in impoverished and desolate areas of the world. The key activities of the organization include the following:

(a) Sustainable rural development in harmony with the environment;

(b) Vocational trainings to encourage self-reliance, especially for women;

(c) Education and health-care programs for supporting basic human needs;

(d) Emergency humanitarian assistance.

**Significant changes in the organization**

- The Article of Incorporation was modified, in order to include the preservation of the environment and disaster relief in Japan.
- The supervisory authority was changed from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Cabinet Office.
- The Tokyo Office was established.
- The Tohoku Office was established in order to implement projects for supporting the victims of the great east Japan earthquake.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Unfortunately, the organization was not able to make significant contributions to the work of the United Nations, as it was obliged to allocate much of its resources to the relief and developmental projects in the field.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- 2008-2011: Representatives attended the mental health and psychosocial support meetings hosted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for Iraqi refugees once in every two months in Jordan.
- 2008: Representatives attended the coordination meetings hosted weekly in July and August by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Yangon for emergency assistance for disaster victims of the Myanmar cyclone.
- 2009: Representatives attended the cluster meetings hosted in February in Jerusalem by the World Food Programme for humanitarian support in the Gaza Strip. Representatives attended the health and shelter clusters meetings hosted weekly from October to December by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for the Indonesia West Sumatra Earthquake Relief Programme.
- 2010: Representatives attended the shelter and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) clusters meetings hosted monthly in Port-au-Prince by the

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for the Haiti Earthquake Relief Programme.

- 2010-2011: Representatives attended the shelter and WASH clusters meetings hosted monthly from October 2010 to August 2011 in Punjab Province, Multan, by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for the Pakistan Flood Relief Programme.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Project in collaboration with UNHCR as a provider for the Psychosocial Care Programme for Iraqi refugees in Jordan, January 2008- December 2009.
- Project in collaboration with UNICEF as a provider for the Psychosocial Care Programme for Iraqi refugees in Jordan, June 2010- July 2011.
- Project in collaboration with FAO to provide water storage tanks in Tubas, Occupied Palestinian Territory, November 2010- April 2011.
- Project in collaboration with Assistance Programme for Afghanistan Refugees initiated by the International Organization for Migration to support Afghanistan refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran, April-December 2010.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Malawi, Afghanistan, the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Jordan by providing supports described below:

- Targets 1 and 2: Comprehensive rural development to 94 villages and 17,307 people (Nkothakota, Malawi, 2008-2011)
- Target 3: Construction of three schools for approximately 720 children and rehabilitation of four schools for approximately 12,420 children (Herat, Afghanistan, 2010-2011)
- Target 4: Literacy courses to 1,185 women (Herat, Afghanistan; 2008-2011)
- Target 5: Introduction of ecological sanitation (Eco-san) toilets; 750 toilets constructed (Nkothakota and Dowa, Malawi, 2008-2011)
- Target 6: Construction of the maternity wing for a rural health centre and implementation of village mother class to 666 pregnant women. (Nkothakota, 2010-2011)
- Target 8: Mosquito net distribution of approximately. 9,000 nets to 3,256 households; Malaria tests for 7,381 people; and Malaria treatment for 2,919 people. (Nkothakota and Dowa, 2008-2011)
- Target 9: Application of eco-san toilet technology at the Ministry of Agriculture in Malawi
- Target 12: Organizing the Holy Tree Agricultural Cooperative by local farmers from the Occupied Palestinian Territory and exporting their olive oil products to other countries such as Israel, Japan, Saudi Arabia, and so forth. (Tubas, Occupied Palestinian Territory, 2008-2011)

- Target 18: Information and communications technologies training to 4,511 Afghan refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran and 578 youths in Jordan. (Mashhad, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Zarqa, Jordan, 2008-2011)

**Additional information**

The organization has been also implementing emergency relief following the great east Japan earthquake of 11 March 2011.

## 8. Okedongmu Children in Korea

**Special, 2008**

**Introduction**

Okedongmu Children in Korea is a non-governmental organization of the Republic of Korea in favour of the development agenda of the Economic and Social Council and the larger United Nations.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization has contributed to the achievement of the United Nations development agenda in terms of supporting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child by (a) educating some children of the Republic of Korea on peace and (b) helping the children in the regions affected by natural disasters:

With regard to (a), during the period 2008-2011, the organization operated a training programme on peace leadership. In addition, it conducted an annual education programme of peace for about 1,000 elementary school students and occasionally held campaigns for and popular lecture meetings on the peace of the Korean Peninsula.

In addition, every year since 2008 (with the exception of 2009), the organization, together with the children from North-East Asian nations, has held an international workshop focused on the subject of peaceful co-existence of all the children living in the region, including the Korean Peninsula.

With regard to (b), the organization conducted two nationwide fundraising campaigns: one was for the Haitian children following the 2010 earthquake (goods equivalent to $17,000), and the other was for the recovery of Japan following the tsunami in 2011 (goods equivalent to $3,000 for Fukushima and $6,500 for Tohoku).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization has been continuously trying to contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, especially Goals 1, 4 and 5.

In 2008, the organization completed a project for construction of a paediatric ward in Pyongyang, and also provided considerable medicine and medical supplies and equipment for 183,000 children in Pyongyang and about 112,500 children in Nampo City. It sent medicine and medical supplies for approximately 8,000 pregnant mothers and infants in Jang-gyo Ri, Kang-nam Gun (a suburban county of Pyongyang). In addition, , it supplied 1.1 million packs of soy bean milk, 50 tons of

corn flour and 350,000 packs of soybean milk to infants and children under age 5 in Jang-gyo Ri.

In 2009, the organization shipped medicine and medical supplies for 161,000 children in Pyongyang and 112,500 children in Nampo City.

In 2010, the organization provided medicine and medical supplies and equipment for 166,500 child patients in Pyongyang and 112,500 in Nampo City, and 600,000 packs of soybean milk for infants and children under age 5 in Nampo City. In addition, it organized a nationwide fundraising campaign for the children struck by the disastrous flood in Sin-ui-ju, a neighbouring city with Dan-dong city of China, supplying 60 tons of rice.

In 2011, the organization provided medicine and medical supplies and equipment for 166,500 children in Nampo City and for 8,000 pregnant mothers and infants and children under age 5 in Jang-gyo Ri. In addition, it donated 500,000 packs of soybean milk for children in Nampo City and the same amount for the children struck by the unexpected flood in Sa-ri-won city (capital of North Hwanghae Province), along with 65 tons of flour and 1,000 suits of underwear.

## 9. Partnership for Global Justice

**Special, 2008**

**Introduction**

The Partnership for Global Justice is a network of religious congregations, other groups and individuals grounded in gospel values. The members stand in solidarity with those who are oppressed, foster justice for the Earth, and reverence the diversity of world cultures. Therefore the Partnership is committed to develop a global consciousness through educational programmes, advocacy and participation with the United Nations.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Partnership works for equitable global systems by promoting Earth literacy and ecological sustainability, educating for global citizenship, and fostering understanding and communion among cultures and faith traditions. The members of the Partnership also establish, administer, finance and staff institutions and centres which serve the poor.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The Partnership has extended its outreach to teachers and students of colleges and universities, high schools and elementary schools, by providing programmes that offer information on the United Nations and providing forums to develop global citizenship. There have been no significant changes in the administration or geographical locations.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Partnership undertakes activities to advance the achievement of the development agenda in three different ways: education, advocacy and participation.

Through education programmes, the Partnership has developed two main ongoing programmes to reach its membership, the United Nations Orientation Days and the Global Economics Workshop, which are carried out throughout the year. The Partnership hosts an annual meeting focusing on a topic that is related to development. In addition, the Partnership co-sponsors a programme with the Lower Hudson Valley Catholic College and University Consortium in the fall and spring each year.

The Orientation Days present issues and provide discussion on the following topics, which are presented by NGOs: an overview of the United Nations; the Millennium Development Goals; trafficking of women and girls; indigenous peoples; sustainable development; financing for development; social development; and disarmament. The Partnership has held a significant number of orientation programmes hosting 29 three-day sessions, reaching 650 persons.

The Global Economics Workshop explores current market economics and development economics as it relates to the issues of poverty and development. The Partnership presented the Global Economics Workshop nine times, reaching 270 persons. In addition, the workshop was presented on a webcast and now is available on DVD.

The Partnership hosted its annual meetings in April or May, with 250 participants attending over the last four years. The themes for the last four years are as follows:

2008: The spirituality of politics: searching for the common good

2009: Beyond poverty: from greed to green

2010: Disarmament, connecting with the 2010 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

2011: Climate change: building a sustainable Future, connecting with the Commission on Sustainable Development

Members of the Partnership receive monthly Action Alerts on particular topics relating to such issues as disarmament, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and the social protection floor. The Partnership participates in the NGO Committees on Sustainable Development, Social Development, and Disarmament, Peace and Security.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Partnership members have participated in sessions of the Commission on Social Development; the Commission for Sustainable Development; the Commission on the Status of Women; and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The Partnership members have also participated in NGO briefings hosted by the Department of Public Information.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

On 20 April 2009, the Partnership presented a statement to the General Assembly Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature initiated by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Through its participation in the NGO Committees, the Partnership cooperates with NGOs to submit statements and resolutions that are designed to move the agenda forward. In the area of sustainable development, the

Partnership has been most active in raising issues that have been moved for submission to the Commission on Sustainable Development.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Orientation Programme provides a session that includes the history and development of the Millennium Development Goals and further follows up by preparing the participants to observe the data reports of the countries. The discussion is followed up by mission visits of country representatives and the Partnership participants who enter into dialogue on the current needs and progress of the country. Mission visits have included: Haiti, Cuba, Canada, Ireland, Hungary Kenya, New Zealand, the United States and Zambia.

## 10. Partnership for Indigenous Peoples Environment

**Special, 2004**

**Introduction**

Partnership for Indigenous Peoples Environment continued to promote dialogue as a tool for studies, knowledge-sharing and proper understanding of indigenous issues and conflict situations. During the period 2008-2011, it pursued its Programme of Action (reflected in its quadrennial report for 2004-2007 (E/C.2/2009/2/Add.13)), to seek enforcement of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in specific measures within national frameworks. The Partnership continually initiated official and informal consultation, dialogue, workshops, round tables and media briefings and meetings with Member States and corporate entities. It organized awareness programmes on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and how to monitor an environmental impact assessment study. The Partnership was founded in Vienna, during World Conference on Human Rights, held from 14 to 25 June 1993, with the aim of, among others; working in partnership with the United Nations, Member States and civil society organizations to focus attention on indigenous issues.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In connection with the UNEP Ogoniland Project, the Partnership participated in the following:

- Consultation at the Nigeria House, in New York, with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, followed by a Partnership Briefing Note on the Ogoni environmental impact assessment study.
- Dialogue at Airport Hotel in Lagos, with Bishop Matthew Hassan Kukah, Chairman of the Ogoni-Shell Presidential Reconciliation Committee appointed to oversee the UNEP Ogoni Project (17 June 2009).
- Briefing Note providing vital information, awareness, technical expertise and an offer to collaborate with United Nations operators (11 September 2011).
- Meetings with Rivers State Environmental Commissioner, Rivers State, Barrister Kingsley Chindah, leading to collaboration (May and June 2009).

The Partnership drew attention to the principle of free, prior and informed consent with regard to conflict resolution, public participation and means of accountability and reconciliation. It carried out research on rules, standards, policies, regulations and experiences on the environmental impact assessment study throughout the period from May to August, 2008 and held strategy meetings on the approach for involvement in the Ogoni Project (September 2008). It made contact made with grass-roots organizations (September-October 2008). It participated in a round-table on the Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples in New York (10 December 2009). The Partnership continued with its annual December 10 Human Rights Day Forum during the period.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Partnership participated in the seventh session of United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held in New York from 21 April to 2 May 2008, and the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009. It held a media briefing and granted interviews on the implications of petroleum pollution for climate change, the Millennium Development Goals, threats to indigenous peoples and why Governments and civil society organizations need to partner with each other to succeed.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Briefing Note: the partnership provided information to relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations on a non-existent environmental impact assessment study report on Ogoniland.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The UNEP Ogoni Project has implications for: poverty, food insecurity, environmental issues, climate change, justice, peace, conflict resolution, corporate accountability and respect for human rights and freedoms. The Partnership engages grass-roots civil society organizations in order to bring the dreams and promises of the United Nations to all.

## 11. Peace Education Foundation

**Special, 1996**

**Introduction**

The mission of the Peace Education Foundation is to educate children and adults in the dynamics of conflict and promote skills of peacemaking in homes, schools, communities, the nation and the world.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Foundation believes that conflict is a natural, unavoidable phenomenon that can be a constructive opportunity for positive change and empowerment.

The Foundation believes in teaching children the skills they need to find creative and constructive ways to settle conflicts. It works with teachers and other adults so that they understand the importance of modelling this behaviour for children to learn.

The Foundation believes that children learn best in a caring environment where their self-esteem is nurtured as they are challenged to become responsible decision makers.

The Foundation believes that peace education encourages the emotional, intellectual, ethical and social growth of children within a framework of traditional values, such as honesty, justice and responsibility.

It is the hope of the Foundation that, as children become adults and leaders, they will implement these concepts as a part of their everyday being, so that conflicts, whether at an individual or a country level, are dealt with in a non-violent manner.

The Foundation achieves these aims through the development and publishing of curricula. It trains teachers, youth group leaders, community leaders and professionals working with children in conflict resolution, violence prevention and mediation. Its curricular materials are concrete tools for teaching and youth professionals to teach and model the essentials of conflict resolution, which are: community building, understanding conflict, understanding the role of perception in a conflict, problem-solving and decision-making, the role of emotions and anger, and effective communication. Some of the life skills taught are respect, cooperation, empathy, coping skills, perspective-taking, anger management, escalating factors, de-escalating skills, listening, I-statements, tolerance, diversity and multicultural issues.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The Foundation entered the arena of early childhood. The organization developed and provided materials and training for adults to learn, model and teach nurturing skills for children from birth to age 5.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Foundation participated in the work of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council primarily in the field, working in numerous countries. It focused its activities on the implementation of its violence prevention and peace education programme in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, although during the period under review, it also began work in Kenya and Poland. The work of the United Nations and the foundation's role as an NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council was prominently highlighted.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization does not have a permanent representative in New York or other United Nations headquarters locations, so participation at meetings of the United Nations is limited. When working internationally, efforts are made to meet with representatives of United Nations subsidiary bodies.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Foundation publicized the UNICEF *State of the World's Children* reports during the period under review. The Foundation observed the United Nations International Day of Peace each September 21 and encouraged schools and teachers to have special events on that date annually. Those events ranged from peace rallies to peace parades.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The work of the Foundation contributed primarily to Goal 2 of the Millennium Development Goals to achieve universal primary education. The work conducted was aligned with several of the six goals of the UNESCO "Education for All": Goal 1, Expand early childhood care and education; Goal 3, Promote learning and life skills for young people and adults; and Goal 6, Improve the quality of education.

## 12. People to People

**Special, 2008**

**Introduction**

People to People is an organization dedicated to improving health care and the well-being of others and reducing the spread of diseases, particularly in Ethiopia and among the Ethiopian diaspora communities.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

People to People works to mobilize the global Ethiopian diaspora to play an active role in mitigating the impact of brain drain and help Ethiopia to achieve its development goals. The organization's mission is to build a bridge linking the diaspora with Ethiopian institutions for effective human resources development, health care and education. The organization's efforts are focused on strengthening health and education systems through partnerships with local hospitals, universities, organizations and other partners, and on promoting the overall health and well-being of vulnerable communities.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In an effort to assist Ethiopia in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, People to People has undertaken a number of initiatives relating to improving the overall health and well-being of all persons in Ethiopia, with special attention for strengthening health systems and serving those most affected by poverty and other hardships. Throughout the period 2008-2011, the organization has partnered in various capacities with the World Bank, universities and hospitals both in Ethiopia and abroad, the Federal Ministry of Health of Ethiopia, and various NGOs and international organizations in addressing the severe shortage of trained physicians and health professionals, primarily through diaspora exchange programmes that promote education, research, health system strengthening, and the improved treatment of patients.

The organization continues to facilitate and support visiting diaspora physicians and professionals who give their time in-country to give lectures, do rounds, conduct trainings, or otherwise support their peers. Attention is now being given to developing systems for virtual delivery and the development of online communities of practice in order to ensure that information can be shared and accessed in perpetuity. Working in close collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health and institutional partners such as the World Bank, People to People is helping to fill in the gaps and support the Government's New Innovative Medical Education Initiative. The organization remains committed to doing its part in building strong programmes at each of the 13 new medical colleges and is working to support various major hospitals and universities, including those in Addis Ababa, Jimma, Mekelle, Awassa, Gondar, and Bahir Dar. These efforts are helping to train new and existing staff, save and improve lives, and assist the country in reaching its ambitious health and development goals. The organization has helped to establish training and residency support programmes in the fields of emergency medicine, neurology, ear, nose and throat, radiology, obstetrics and gynaecology, cardiology, infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS and many other areas of medicine.

The organization also oversees and helps to coordinate a number of efforts undertaken by other Ethiopian diaspora-based groups, building a network of organizations aimed at facilitating the sharing of best practices and information, transferring skills and technology to Ethiopia in the area of medicine and allied fields and maximizing collective efforts.

People to People is also actively involved in promoting education, research, and awareness of HIV/AIDS and has consistently carried out a number of efforts aimed at providing vital support, knowledge, and health services to those most deeply affected by the disease, including orphaned youth. Several hundred youth orphaned by HIV/AIDS in Addis Ababa and Amanuel have benefited from support programmes that have provided nutrition, shelter, safety, vocational training, educational support, basic supplies, and community awareness and advocacy campaigns to create vital and sustainable support networks.

The organization has published four editions of its *Horn of Africa Journal of AIDS* publication from 2008 to 2011, which is the first regional, scientific, peer-reviewed journal devoted to HIV/AIDS. It is distributed free of charge to the medical community in Ethiopia and to medical schools in East Africa.

Through partnerships with local media outlets, People to People periodically publishes public health information to create awareness for preventative health purposes and educate the public on the causes, symptoms and treatment options for various general public health issues.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization has not partnered with any United Nations bodies during the period under review, although it has since signed on to become a partner in the UNICEF Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities.

## 13. People with Disabilities Uganda

**Special, 2004**

**Introduction**

People with Disabilities Uganda is a national, non-profit, peace and disability rights organization based in Kampala.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission of the organization is peace and accessible living for all. Its vision is to foster awareness, promote peace and provide services that will help improve the status of people living with disabilities, and hence the people of Uganda as a whole.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization promotes public awareness on the Charter of the United Nations, the Millennium Development Goals and United Nations conventions especially on disability and cluster ammunitions.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives of the organization:

- Attended the public commemorative event held at United Nations Headquarters on 12 May 2008 to celebrate the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol.
- Attended the first meeting of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held at United Nations Headquarters from 31 October to 3 November 2008.
- Attended the third session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held at United Nations Headquarters from 1t September 2010 to 3 September 2010.
- Attended the first through third sessions of Preparatory Committee for the United Nation Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, held at United Nations Headquarters in 2010 and 2011.
- The Director attended biannual meetings on small arms held at United Nations Headquarters, for the years 2008 and 2010.
- Attended the annual Global Work of Action against Gun Violence, organized in Kampala every July for the years 2008 to 2011.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization cooperated with UNDP, UNHCR, WHO and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization held training workshops and seminars and activities to promote community of sustainable development.

The organization celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities under the theme "Making the Millennium Development Goals disability-inclusive: empowerment of persons with disabilities and their communities around the world", in Kampala on 3 December 2009.

The organization celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities under the theme "Keeping the promise: mainstreaming disability in the Millennium Development Goals towards 2015 and beyond", in Kampala on 3 December 2010.

Representatives attended the Expert Group Meeting on Mainstreaming Disability in Millennium Development Goal Policies, Processes and Mechanisms under the theme "Development for all", held at WHO headquarters in Geneva from 14 to 16 April 2009.

**Additional information**

During the period under review, the organization has developed strategies to attend more appropriately to the special needs of disadvantaged groups in the spectrum of blindness, such as blind children and women, the elderly and the multihandicapped. Actions in favour of blind children, women, the elderly and the multihandicapped continued to be one of the key priorities of the organization for the period 2008-2011. It will continue to raise public awareness on impacts of small arms and light weapons in Uganda.

## 14. People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy

**Special, 2004**

**Introduction**

Since its establishment in 1994, People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy has been working on "people's participation" and "human rights". The organization consists of activists, experts from various backgrounds, and 12,000 individual members. It monitors the abuse of legislative, executive and judicial bodies, petitions legislation to advocate new policies and to promote and protect the basic rights of people. Through public litigation and public campaigns, the organization works on socioeconomic reform. It aims to solidify the citizens' movement for peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, and intensify its international solidarity activities to promote and protect human rights and enhance democracy in Asia. In addition, the organization is deeply committed to monitoring the official development assistance (ODA) of the Republic of Korea to neighbouring Asian countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

(a) Proposing alternative policies: the organization researches and proposes alternative policies, bills and measures for enhancing the livelihoods and rights of people.

(b) Watchdog: the organization closely monitors government authorities to prevent abuse of their power.

(c) People's participation: the organization operates on a membership fee basis with about 15,800 individual members, irregular donations and the involvement of members and volunteers.

(d) Solidarity: the organization hopes to enhance solidarity with other civil society organizations and human rights defenders to establish a society where everyone can enjoy a decent life and participate in decision-making processes to enhance democracy.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

(a) The organization regularly submitted written statements to the Human Rights Council, which covered various issues under the agenda items on forced evictions, freedom of opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and political surveillance.

(b) The organization submits urgent appeals to the special procedures mandate holders when necessary, especially on the issues of human rights defenders, freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of peaceful assembly.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization:

(a) Delivered oral statements during the sessions of the Human Rights Council;

(b) Organized side events during the sessions of the Human Rights Council;

(c) Organized side events and presented the 2010 nuclear disarmament report during the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization had a regular meeting with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea when he visited the Republic of Korea for his annual report. Also, together with other Republic of Korea civil society organizations, the organization invited the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Frank La Rue, to the International Symposium on Freedom of Opinion and Expression in Cyberspace on the theme "The situation and challenges in East Asia", which was held in Seoul on 13 October 2009.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

(a) On the second Global Day of Action on Military Spending, on 12 April 2011, the organization held a campaign under the title "Use our tax on social welfare instead of military spending". As a part of the campaign, it promoted the importance of implementing the Millennium Development Goals and called for using Government spending on development rather than on the military.

(b) In order to contribute to a global partnership for development, the organization monitors and assesses the Government's ODA policy and implementation process and puts forward ODA improvement tasks for better results.

(c) The Social Welfare Committee of the organization had a Hope Up campaign to raise awareness of and readjust the minimum cost of living.

## 15. Population Council

**Special, 1972**

**Introduction**

The Population Council conducts research in three areas: HIV and AIDS; poverty, gender and youth; and reproductive health.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Council participated in the following projects:

- United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women: "Safescaping Guatemala's indigenous communities" content and activities on preventing gender-based violence were developed and incorporated into the Abriendo Oportunidades curriculum.
- Survey of Young People in Egypt, January 2011: Council researchers conducted a nationally representative survey covering 15,000 young people aged 10 to 29 to update the state of knowledge on youth and adolescents in Egypt on issues of health, education, employment, family formation and civic participation.
- The Implications of Early Marriage for HIV/AIDS Policy 2007 brought together experts from the United Nations, donors, and NGOs to consider the evidence regarding the reproductive health, the vulnerability to HIV infection, social and economic disadvantage and the rights of married adolescent girls.
- With UNFPA and UNICEF, the Population Council undertook a multisectoral project to preventing child marriage and improving opportunities for married girls.
- HIV-prevention Project for Vulnerable Adolescent Girls in Ethiopia: this programme is composed of several components, including the Biruh Tesfa ("Bright future") project, which supports the most vulnerable girls by reducing their social isolation and providing them with health information.
- The Addis Birhan ("New light") project: supporting men and boys in examining notions of masculinity and becoming better partners to girls and women.
- Married Girls' Groups: supporting married girls by reducing their social isolation and providing them with health information.
- Days of Dialogue: training religious leaders to inform their congregations about early marriage, HIV, safe motherhood, gender-based violence, and other reproductive health issues. In 2009, the Council conducted a youth and gender survey with nearly 20,000 respondents, including adolescents aged 12 to 24 and women aged 25 to 49. The survey serves as the baseline for four new initiatives of the United Nations.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- A senior associate of the Population Council was a keynote speaker at the forty-fifth session of the Commission on Population and Development, held in New York from 23-27 April 2012.
- The Population Council joined a broad coalition of organizations representing millions of Americans to applaud United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in consensus to achieve universal access to reproductive health as critical for individual health, family well-being, broader economic development and a healthy planet, in January 2010.
- A senior associate from the Population Council participated in the parallel event entitled "Prevention now! Expanding access to female and male condoms through advocacy and programming", during the fifty-fourth session Commission on the Status of Women in March 2010.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- UNFPA: Levels, trends and determinants of contraceptive use among adolescent girls in Kenya, February 2011.
- UNESCO: The Girls Left Behind, 20 October 2008.
- UNICEF: Evaluation of United Nations-supported pilot projects for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, August 2003.
- UNFPA called upon the Population Council to work with UNFPA country offices and national Governments to identify strategies for reintegrating both the female and male condom into the national reproductive health and HIV and AIDS programmes of Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone.
- The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ethiopia requested that the Council help the Government develop and implement projects to improve family planning and reproductive health, and to support the country's most vulnerable adolescent girls, supported by UNFPA.
- Critical Communities for Investment in Adolescent Girls — a project that will provide data and maps on vulnerable adolescent girls and build support among donors and interested stakeholders to make investments that improve the health and rights of the poorest girls in the poorest communities. In this project, the Council functions as a "technical secretariat" for the United Nations Adolescent Girls Task Force.